

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed December 13, 2006, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamamoto (U.S. Patent no. 7,020,058); claims 3, 7 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto in view of Harada (U.S. Patent No. 6,856,583). The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 5 and 9 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found at paragraphs [0021] and [0025] of the specification.

Claims 1-12 are currently pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

None of the foregoing references relied upon, individually or combined, discuss "an apparatus for preventing a writing error from occurring on an optical disc in an optical disc drive having a wobble signal generator, the apparatus comprising: an interpolation ATIP sync signal detector which receives a wobble signal from the wobble signal generator of the optical disc drive and **detects an interpolation ATIP sync signal from the wobble signal, the interpolation ATIP sync signal is an ATIP sync signal which is artificially interpolated by the wobble signal generator**; a number determiner which determines a number of interpolation ATIP sync signals and generates a writing speed transformation control signal based on the number of interpolation ATIP sync signals determined; and **a writing speed adjuster which receives the writing speed transformation control signal from the number determiner and adjusts a writing speed of the optical disc drive to a speed of the optical disc on which writing is to be performed,**" as recited in amended claim 1, for example. Amended claims 5 and 9 recite features somewhat similar to those recited in amended claim 1.

Various embodiments of the present invention, discuss "detect[ing] an interpolation ATIP sync signal from the wobble signal" as recited in amended claim 1, for example. The interpolation ATIP sync signal refers to an ATIP sync signal which is artificially interpolated by the wobble signal generator when the wobble signal generator does not normally generate an ATIP sync signal due to the characteristics of the optical disc, variations in the characteristics of an optical pickup and external factors. Thus, resulting in writing errors. When the interpolation ATIP sync signal is indefinitely applied, writing to the optical disc may continue. However, the ATIP sync signal may be distorted and an error may occur when reading written data (see paragraphs [0021] and [0022] of the specification of the present invention). Yamamoto fails to discuss these features.

In contrast, Yamamoto discusses an optical disc device which includes a velocity judging means, and a velocity changing means, recording velocity detecting means, and a recording velocity transmitting means (see Abstract). At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that column 3, lines 34-43 of Yamamoto discuss the Applicants "interpolation ATIP sync signal detector" and "writing speed adjuster" as recited in claim 1, for example. The Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner. The Applicants respectfully submit that the cited portion of Yamamoto merely discuss counting ATIP synchronizing signals included in a wobble signal, where the ATIP synchronizing signals represent "absolute time information" and calculating the recording velocity from a number of the ATIP synchronizing signals counted within a predetermined time.

At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Yamamoto only changes speed when the number of ATIP syncs changes. Further, at page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Yamamoto fails to discuss "writing speed adjuster applies a writing stop control signal to an optical disc drive controller so that the optical disc drive enters a pause mode, adjusts the writing speed to a speed of the optical disc, and applies a writing speed adjustment control signal to the optical disc drive to adjust the writing speed," as recited in claim 3, for example. Claims 7 and 11 recited features somewhat similar to those recited in claim 3. However, the Examiner asserts that Harada makes up for the deficiencies of Yamamoto as mentioned above. The Applicants respectfully submit that Harada fails to make up for the deficiencies of Yamamoto as mentioned above.

In contrast, Harada merely discusses an optical disk player which restarts to write data from an interruption address even if writing data is once interrupted (see column 1, lines 5-9). Harada discusses a data protection means for interrupting to write data when a buffer under-run occurs, and restarting to write data when a data transferring velocity is accelerated or enough amount of data to be written are stored in a buffer memory, in which data are temporally stored before writing, after the interruption of writing data (see column 2, lines 57-62; and column 5, lines 49-54).

Based upon the above-mentioned comments, the combination of Yamamoto and Harada fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness over the present invention.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

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Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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